

MINUTES
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 3, 2008

Department of Education
James Whitcomb Riley Conference Room
151 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

The meeting of the Indiana State Board of Education convened at 9:08 a.m. Board members Dr. Suellen Reed, Dr. Edward Eiler, David Shane, James Edwards, Daniel Elsener, Todd Huston, Vicki Snyder, Steve Gabet, and Mike Pettibone were present. Dr. Gwendolyn Griffith-Adell and Jo Blacketer were not present.

I. Call to Order

_____ Dr. Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Dr. Eiler moved for approval of the minutes. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Statement of the Chair

Dr. Reed informed the Board of the passing of Dr. Griffith-Adell's son, Dr. Robert Marra's mother, and Michelle Walker's husband. Dr. Reed asked that everyone keep these individuals in mind during these difficult days.

Dr. Reed also discussed the following:

- The International Bullying Prevention Association national conference.
- The Indiana Council for Social Studies annual conference.
- The Economic Education awards program.
- Speaking engagement at the Gary Chamber of Commerce.
- School visits at New Prairie United School Corporation.
- Installation ceremony of Dr. Daniel J. Bradley, President, Indiana State University.
- Council of Chief State School Officers policy forum.
- Meeting with representatives from the Children's Museum regarding influence on student learning.
- The CELL conference.
- The International Night at Pacers where Catherine Blitzer, International Education Consultant, was honored as an "Indiana Hero."

IV. Member Comments and Reports from Board Member Representatives to Other Groups

_____ Ms. Snyder shared with Board members a publication honoring The Signature School. _____

V. Committee Reports

- A. Jeffery P. Zaring, State Board of Education Administrator reported on Strategic Planning and gave Board members an updated version of the balanced score card that included some new data.

Mr. Zaring also said Anne Brinson, Assistant Superintendent, and Rick Rozelle had a conversation about getting access to the technology used for the Delaware interactive planning site.

- B. Mr. Zaring reported on the Regulatory Review Committee and said he and Mr. Gabet have tentatively developed an agenda for the committee. The next meeting is scheduled for the evening of January 6. At that meeting the committee will go over staff work that has been completed between now and then and also lay out an agenda and dates for the committee to meet and interact with stakeholders on priorities that have been identified.
- C. Mr. Shane discussed textbook adoption and gave Board members copies of "New Machines Reproduce Custom Books on Demand" and "The End of Textbooks." Board members discussed the definition of textbook, textbook software, and funding issues related to the State Board of Accounts. Mr. Shane said at this time no one has disagreed with the position the Board has taken regarding textbooks.

Board members discussed getting a communication together to send out to schools and also checking with the State Board of Accounts regarding textbook adoption software reimbursement issues.

This matter will be discussed further at the January meeting.

VI. Discussion

- A. Wes Bruce, Assistant Superintendent, discussed accountability and assessment and said ISTEP results were available on November 26. Parents now have access to their student's test results at the Parent Network site.

Mr. Bruce gave Board members a document summarizing the graduation rate audit and said eight schools have not responded to a letter requesting graduation information.

Mr. Bruce discussed online assessment and fiscal implications. The Spring 2009 multiple choice portion was to be online, per a contract with the testing company, for 20 percent of students in Indiana. Some schools have backed out, causing 100,000 more documents that need to be printed and mailed. An amendment to the testing contract will need to be done for the extra costs. The idea of encouraging more schools to participate in online testing and looking at possible incentives to school who participate was discussed.

Mr. Bruce said he recently attended a National Technical Advisory Council meeting and also has met with officials of the US Department of Education regarding our assessment transition and the challenges it will bring. Mr. Bruce gave Board members a copy of information regarding Indiana's switch from Fall to Spring Test Administration and AYP Determinations. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the document.

Mr. Zaring gave Board members a draft summary of The New Indiana School Accreditation and Accountability System.

- B. Joel Hand, Director of Legislative and Governmental Relations, discussed some of the recommendations on final reports from the interim study committees on Adult Education and Education Matters including the following:
- Adult education - recommendation were made for increase in funding; DOE should alter the formula for allocating adult education

funds to address needs of any school corporation (such as Portage School Corporation) that provide comprehensive adult education programs; other entities other than school corporations could operate adult education programs and receive funding; and the list of providers eligible to receive state funding for adult education programs should be expanded to include other entities.

Education matters recommendations included the following:

- Evidence submitted to the committee does not support a finding that random steroid drug testing of high school athletes should be implemented. More effective way of disseminating information about the hazards of steroid usage should be used by various means and entities.
 - School counselors should have a uniform school counselor job description. The committee recommended that legislation be prepared that directs the DOE to adopt rules by July 1, 2010, that establish a uniform job description for school counselors. The ratio of school counselors to students in Indiana exceeds the national recommended ratio and should be lowered.
 - The report developed by the Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services is extremely important as it regards six recommendations in the area of education. In the 2009 legislative session, these recommendations will be discussed and legislative action will be considered.
 - Draft was approved concerning renaming the Indiana Technology Fund as the Senator David C. Ford School and Library Technology Fund.
 - Virtual education staff should be certified in the subject areas they teach; instruction must meet or exceed Indiana academic standards; recommendations were made that the State Board of Education require each student to complete at least one course through virtual distance learning or computer based instruction to be considered for high school graduation.
 - Transportation fund levies for increases in fuel costs will be addressed during the 2009 General Assembly.
- C. Mr. Zaring gave an update on school construction guidelines and said the Indiana Construction Association and the Architects Association have

formed a collaborative effort looking at school construction. Board members will be contacted soon by Dr. Robert Koester, School of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, for their input and guidance.

VII. Public Comments

VIII. Consent Agenda

- _____ A. Mr. Zaring presented a request for adoption of final orders in administrative adjudications where no objections have been filed to the recommended order of the hearing officer. [Agenda item VIII, A]
- B. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of the Adult Education 2009 spring term allocations. [Agenda item X, A]
- C. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of Advances from the Common School Fund for Charter Schools. [Agenda item X, B]
- D. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of a Freeway School petition from the Eman Elementary and Middle School, Fishers. [Agenda item X, C]
- E. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of a Freeway School renewal from the Park Tudor Upper School, Indianapolis. [Agenda item X, D]
- F. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of a Freeway School renewal from the Jewel Christian Academy, Indianapolis. [Agenda item X, E]
- G. Mr. Zaring presented a request for approval of a Freeway School renewal from the Bethesda Christian Schools, Brownsburg. [Agenda item X, F]

Mr. Elsener moved for approval of the consent agenda items. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Action

X. Board Operations

Mr. Zaring said he will be attending the NASBE Assessment study group; Mrs. Blacketor will attend the Governmental Affairs committee meeting, and Mr. Pettibone will attend the Power of Partnerships study group, all in January 2009, in Arlington, Virginia.

Mr. Shane moved for adjournment. Mr. Gabet seconded the motion. The

motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.
